GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2621
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2002
POSTAL SERVICES IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS
VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether commensurate with the hike in postal tariff there have been improvements in mail transit/sorting/delivery of mails both in urban and rural centres;

(b) the categories of postal articles carried by air and surface modes;

(c) the steps taken or being taken to improve the mobility of postmen in rural areas;

(d) whether the Government are considering to provide rural postmen with waterproof raincoats and mail bags during monsoons; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(DR.SANJAY PASWAN)

(a) Improvement in transmission, sorting and delivery of mail is a continuous process and is closely monitored. Necessary steps are taken to ensure timely delivery of mail in rural and urban areas irrespective of tariff charged.

(b) All first class mail which includes letters, post cards, letter cards, and money orders are transmitted by air depending on the availability of air service and delivery advantage. The second class mail like book packets, registered newspapers, pattern and sample packets and blind literature packets are transmitted by surface except where air surcharge is paid.

(c) In order to enhance the mobility of postmen in rural areas, the Department grants cycle advance for purchase of bicycles as well as maintenance allowance. However, Gramin Dak Sevaks are given maintenance allowance if they own a cycle and use for delivery.

(d) & (e) No, Sir. The Department is already supplying water-proof rain coat to rural postmen and Gramin Dak Sevanks in case they are using bicycle for delivery except in hilly areas where the condition of using bicycle is waived. Water-proof delivery bags are supplied to postmen.